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MAR 2 9 2004 N

David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MICHAEL J. O'CONNOR, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/813,119

Filed: March 19, 2001

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS HEATING

CATHETER

Examiner: Ahmed M. Farah

Group Art Unit 3739

Docket No. MICRU 56212

March 24, 2004

Los Angeles, California 90045

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to the Office Action dated December 24, 2003, setting a shortened statutory term for a response of three months.

Please enter the following amendments:

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PTO/SB/21 (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. 09/813,119 Application Number TRANSMITTAL March 19, 2001 Filing Date **FORM** Michael J. O'Connor First Named Inventor (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Art Unit 3739 **Examiner Name** Ahmed M. Farah Attorney Docket Number **MICRU 56212** Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Amendment / Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request identify below): Return Postcard Express Abandonment Request Request for Refund Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) ___ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP Customer No. 24201 Individual name RECEIVE Squature MAR 3 1 2004 March 24, 2004 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING TECHNOLOGY CEN Thereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the Typed or printed name David G. Parkhurst

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

March 24, 2004

Signature